

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6143

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH XT US

SUBJECT: PRC MEDIA REPLAYS WESTERN LEADERS ON CSCE

REF: HONG KONG 8420, 8055, AND 8575

1. CONTINUING THEIR EFFORTS TO DOWNPLAY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CSCE SUMMIT MEETING (REFTELS) THE PRC MEDIA ON JULY 26 AND 27 CARRIED THREE SEPERATE ITEMS QUOTING WESTERN POLITICAL LEADERS ON THE MEETING. TOP ATTENTION AND SPACE WELL DEVOTED TO PRESIDENT FORD'S JULY 25 STATEMENT THAT THE CSCE IS "NEITHER A TREATY NOR IS IT LEGALLY BINDING ON ANY PARTICIPATING STATE". SUPPORTING ARTICLES QUOTED THE UK'S MRS THATCHER THAT IT IS "BOTH FOOLISH AND DANGEROUS TO TRUST THE RUSSIANS UNTIL THERE IS MORE REAL EVIDENCE OF THEIR GOOD INTENTIONS" AND THE FRG'S FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS ON THE "ILLUSION" OF SECURITY BEING PROVIDED BY

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THE FORTHCOMING SUMMIT MEETING.

2. STRESSING THE PRESIDENT'S GUARANTEES THAT THE US IS NOT GOING TO RECOGNIZE SOVIET INCORPORATION OF LITHUANIA, LATVIA, AND ESTONIA INTO THE SOVIET UNION AND THAT THE US IS NOT GIVING TACIT RECOGNITION TO SOVIET CONTROL OVER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. NCNA ALSO CARRIED QUOTES BY THE PRESIDENT ON THE NECESSITY TO MAINTAIN THE SOLIDARITY OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. NCNA POINTED OUT THAT "WITH A VIEW TO PENETRATE INTO THE SOVIET UNION AND UNDERMINING ITS FOUNDATION IN EASTERN EUROPE, THE US PRESIDENT FURTHER EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF A GREATER MEASURE OF FREEDOM AND MOVEMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS, INFORMATION, AND IDEAS".

3. IN QUOTING MRS THATCHER, NCNA NOTED THAT SHE HAD MENTIONED THE 1968 CZECHOSLOVAKIAN INVASION AND HER COMMENT THAT "WE MUST NOT ACCEPT WORDS OR GESTURES AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR GENUINE DETENTE". STRAUSS, ALONG WITH OTHER OPPOSITION FRG POLITICIANS WERE DEPICTED AS VIEWING CSCE AS A "DECEPTION " AND WARNING THAT SIGNING WILL NOT ELIMINATE ANY SOURCE OF TENSION.

4. COMMENT: CSCE SIGNING IS A SOURCE OF CONSIDERABLE DISTURBANCE TO THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP, WHOSE VIEW ON THE NEED FOR NATO AND A STRONG, UNITED WESTERN EUROPE ARE WELL KNOWN. THIS IS HEIGHTENED BY THE MORE RECENT PRC DEPICTION OF EUROPE AS THE MOST SERIOUS SOURCE AND CENTER OF SUPERPOWER CONTENTION. THUS THE CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE TAKEN BY WESTERN LEADERS ON THE EVE OF THE SUMMIT IS WELL WORTH REPLAYING SO FAR AS THE PRC MEDIA IS CONCERNED.
CROSS

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